

Archæologia Cantiana.

LYDDEN CHURCH.

BY AYMER VALLANCE.

THE building, which is dedicated to St. Mary, and consists of chancel, nave, west tower and south porch, is of flint with ashlar quoins. The roofs throughout are tiled. It is obvious that the flint surface, being, as it is, rough and irregular, in contrast to the evenness of knapped work, was designed to be plastered over. From Henry Petrie's water-colour drawing, giving a view of the church from the north, as it was in 1807, it will be seen that at that date the exterior had not yet been stripped of its plaster coat. Only a small amount of thin plastering, mixed with grit, survives in patches here and there. Considering, however, that the building was subjected to "restoration" in 1868-9 and again in 1899, (according to the statement in Kelly's *Directory*) it is really surprising how much of antiquity it still retains.

The existing building (notably the closed north door and the tower) dates from the close of the eleventh century, with windows inserted in the first half of the thirteenth century, and slightly later south porch added. None of the windows is splayed externally. The thirteenth century windows have narrow rear arches, or, as one writer terms them, "hoodings," on the inner surface of the arched opening in the wall. The most ancient window seen in the interior of the church is one of early Norman work, a single light, with wide splays and peculiarly oblique north jamb, which is pierced in the east wall of the nave to south of the chancel opening. There is no tracery in any of the windows.

The western tower is square on plan, and is capped by a low pyramidal roof with slightly overhanging eaves.

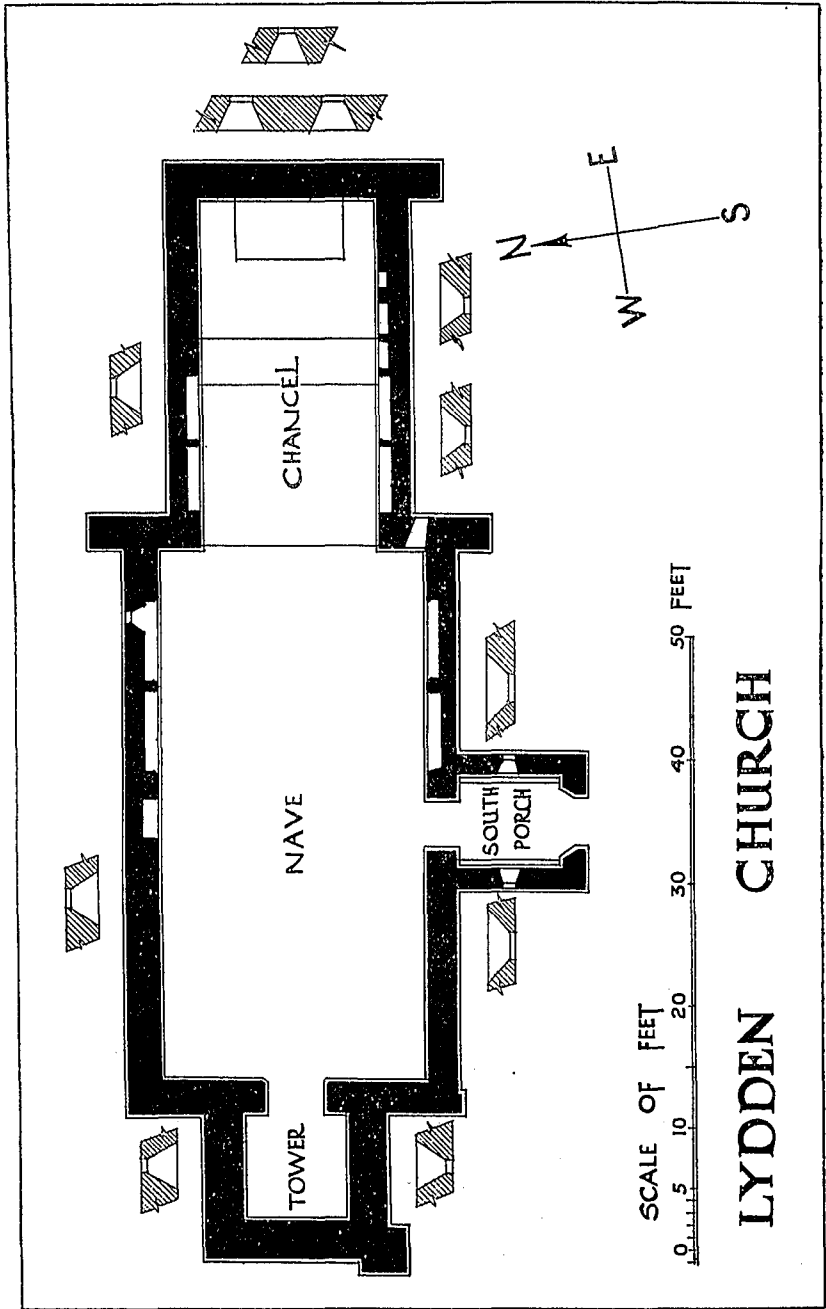


LYDDEN CHURCH FROM THE NORTH-EAST.
Drawn by H. Petrie, F.S.A., in 1807.

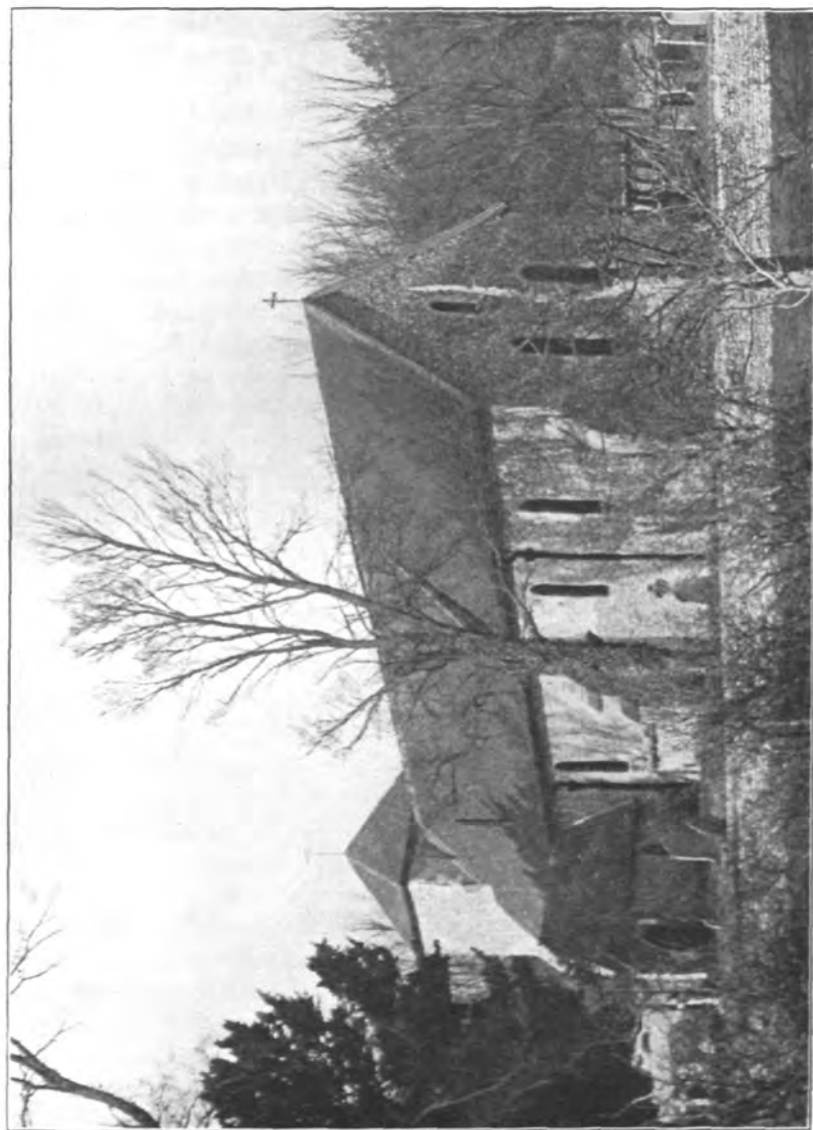


Photo. R. C. D. Boger.

LYDDEN CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH.



LYDDEN CHURCH



LYDDEN CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-EAST.

Photo. R. C. D. Boyer.

It consists of two stages, the division between them being defined by a rude string-course, not moulded, but formed by the insertion of long horizontal stones. On the west face of the tower below the string-course are the remains of two rude arched openings, one above the other, and so close together that they cannot have been built contemporaneously, for either would have precluded the other from being made complete. Both are walled up, and in the lower arch's filling is embedded a Greek cross of stone, with a concave-sided lozenge sunk in the middle of the intersection. This ornament would most likely have been a gable-cross.

The lowest stage possibly had a western door, which is now walled up both externally and internally, if ever it did exist; but embedded in the wall may be seen two or three worked stones, which look as though they might have formed part of the jambs of a doorway.

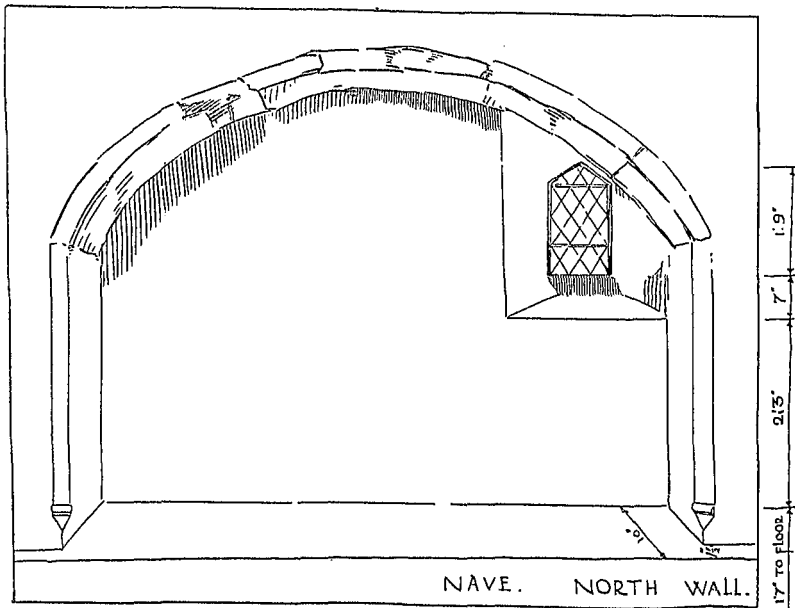
The uppermost stage of the tower is lit on the north and south by a long rectangular loop; and on the west face, just beneath the eaves, is a pair of semi-circular headed windows, side by side, and now blocked. The north and south faces of the lower stage of the tower have each a rectangular window with a deep lintel, having a trefoiled head sunk in it—a most effective device. These two windows, which have conspicuously large and heavy jamb-stones, may be insertions of the late thirteenth or perhaps early fourteenth century.

As originally erected the tower was of early type, i.e., it had no buttresses; but it is evident, however, that a subsidence or other accident must have occurred at some past date to disturb the south-west part of the building. For, beside the clasping buttress, of uncertain age, possibly of the late fourteenth century, at the south-west angle of the tower, the remains of rough rubble work projecting southward from the western extremity of the south wall of the nave, show where a buttress has at one time been built on for the strengthening of this portion of the edifice.

The south porch, which is entered through a plain two-centred archway, without capitals or any device to

mark the springing, and has an equally plain two-centred window on either side of it, appears to be of the latter half of the thirteenth century. The south doorway of the nave may be dated about 1200. It is flanked by a pair of shafts, cylindrical on plan, which are capped by a severely simple impost moulding of early character, and have a heavy roll-moulding, of the same profile as the shafts themselves, continuing from the impost round the upper part of the arch to its somewhat obtuse-pointed apex. The south door, of feather-edge oak boarding, fitted with massive iron strap-hinges, is unquestionably antique (perhaps as old as the latter part of the fourteenth century) but its ogee outline, which culminates in a high point at the top, not fitting but overlapping the opening, shows that this door cannot have been intended in the first instance for its present situation.

Exactly opposite to the existing south door is a narrower recess, like a niche, in the north wall of the nave.



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Easternmost recess in north wall of the nave.

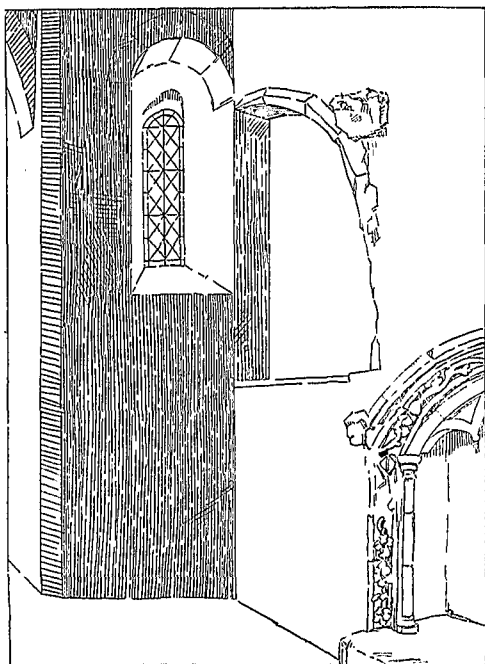
Drawn by Miss Margaret Boger.

This is all that remains of the north door, which is now walled up externally. The paired entrance and exit in an aisleless nave constitute a feature characteristic of Saxon as also of early Norman work, but such, however, that rarely, if ever, occurs in buildings erected subsequently to the twelfth century.

The nave is about 45 feet in length. The tower-arch at its west end "is low and pointed." In the interior of the tower there is no stair, the only means of access to the upper chamber being by ladder. There is one bell.

In the east end of the south wall of the nave is hollowed out the segment of an arch, which has a flat soffit 14 inches wide, and abuts on to the east wall of the nave at its south-east angle. This recess is a puzzle, not easily accounted for, unless it may have been utilised to accommodate within the hollow of the wall the steps which led up to the rood-loft, and to minimise their otherwise inevitable encroachment upon the area of the nave.

The present chancel-arch is modern, built, writes Mr. Thomas H. Oyler, F.S.A., in 1866; and is said to take the place of one which was lower and is described as having been quite plain, "without moulding or bevel." The chancel,



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Nave, south-east corner, showing the corbel to support the south end of the roof-loft.

Drawn by Miss Margaret Boger.

(thirteenth century), is 30 feet long. In its east wall is a group of three single-light windows, two below and a smaller one above. Though in the thirteenth century style, they are of modern workmanship. In the exterior of the east wall are slight indications of a horizontal break, which may denote the position of the sill of the largish east window shown in Petrie's drawing, only too much in perspective for its detail to be distinct. The opening of this window would have been about 1 ft. 9 ins. below that of the existing lower pair of windows.

The sedilia consist of two recessed seats, graded, and each surmounted by a two-centred arch. The altar-drain has a trefoiled head, shaped in a flat slab of stone. The front portion of the basin is broken off, leaving a rough and irregular surface, while the drain within remains undamaged.

Perhaps the most striking feature of the interior is presented by the wall-arches, or tomb-like recesses, under segmental arches, in the lateral walls, viz., two opposite to one another on each side of the chancel, and two more on each side of the nave, near its east end, eight recesses altogether. The crowns of those in the nave do not rise to a uniform level. Through the back of the easternmost recess in the north wall of the nave a small window opening is pierced. Mr. Arthur Hussey conjectures—and the idea is not unreasonable, although he adduces no documentary evidence in support—that this little window may mark the site of an anchorite's cell. Whatever else it may be, it is certainly not a low-side-window. For though its sill is 4 ft. 5 ins. only above the floor, the window is glazed and shows no trace of a shutter. All the recesses stop short of the floor, their lower part being solid and having the effect of bench-tables—the primitive form of seating accommodation provided prior to the introduction of wooden benches. The slabs to the two recesses on the south side of the nave are wider than the rest. There can be no doubt that at the beginning all the eight recesses were finished alike, plain, without sculptured ornament. But in the case of the two on the south side of the nave subsequent embellishments were introduced, without, however, altering the segmental outline of the arches. Both recesses were

enriched with sculpture, inserted in the surrounding cavetto as well as down the sides. Also cusping was introduced on the underside of the curve of either arch. All of that of the westernmost arch of the two has now disappeared, but cinque-foil cusping still remains, though much damaged and broken in the middle, under the easternmost arch. Three rude bosses, now much worn (one in the middle and one at each extremity) were added also, by way of dripstone terminations to the labels. The relief ornament in the cavetto depicts vine-leaves and tendrils and a variety of other vegetable motifs, both miscellaneous and disjointed. It is not easy to assign a date to it, for the leafage has neither the vivid realism of fourteenth century work, nor on the other hand has it the considered design and logical consistency of the fifteenth century. It may be best described as late-Gothic in general character, and the production, perhaps of some inexpert and rustic craftsman. On the slab of the easternmost recess are now fixed, face upward, three armorial shields, averaging 11 inches wide by $11\frac{1}{2}$ inches, sculptured in stone, without tinctures. That they are not *in situ* is proved by a pen-drawing (the property of the Society of Antiquaries) by Sir Edward Dering, dated 1630. The three existing shields are there shown upon the front of a tomb under a plain, unornamented recess, an accompanying note stating that the said tomb was situated on the north side of the church (nave). At what subsequent date the unwarrantable shifting and falsification took place has not been ascertained. The shields are those of the local family of Monins and some of its alliances.

John Greneford, of Swanton, the principal manor in Lydden, whose will, in mediæval Latin, is dated 24th January 1473-4, and was proved 13th June, 1474, desired to be buried in the church of Lyden near the font.¹ He bequeathed 3s. 4d. to the high altar, a like sum annually for three years to be spent on the building itself, and £2 toward the making of new desks and pavement in the chancel. He directed that

¹ The old font has unfortunately disappeared, and in its place is a poor modern substitute, which dates apparently from one or other of the two nineteenth century "restorations."

the light of Blessed Mary in the chancel should be renewed at the feast of the Assumption every year so long as his wife Margaret should live, and in like manner that the Rood-light in the nave should be renewed once every two years during her lifetime.

A further benefaction of John Greneford's was a bequest of £1 6s. 8d. for making a certain glazed window in the south side of the chancel, "where the vicar (*curatus*) and I, the aforesaid John, have been accustomed to perform the canonical hours" (*persolvere consueverimus*). The Greneford arms in glass survived in the east window in 1630, but no glass in Lydden church now exists which can be identified as corresponding with this bequest. Is it possible that, late though the date (toward the end of the fifteenth century) would be for the erection of such a thing, the testator may have intended a window somewhat of the same type which antiquaries to-day designate by the non-committal name of "low-side-window"? An obvious objection, however, is that the description "glazed" would not apply to low-side-windows, because such were provided with wooden shutters only, instead of glass. The most accepted opinion among antiquaries at the present day is that a low-side-window was provided to allow the clerk, at the moment of the Elevation of the Host, to stretch out his arm through the opening and ring a bell, so as to notify the faithful who might be unable to be present in church. The case of Lydden, however, is different. The context of John Greneford's will proves that what he meant was a window to enable any person or persons to see to read. That is why he expressly directs that the window in question was to be glazed, not that it was to be shuttered.

Alice, daughter of John and Margaret Greneford, was married in 1463 to John Monyns, who, if he did not follow in his father-in-law's footsteps, and make a regular practice of reciting the divine office in the chancel of Lydden church, must at any rate have been a personage of good standing and repute in ecclesiastical circles, for, in 1474, the reigning Pope, Sixtus IV, conceded to him the privilege of being accompanied

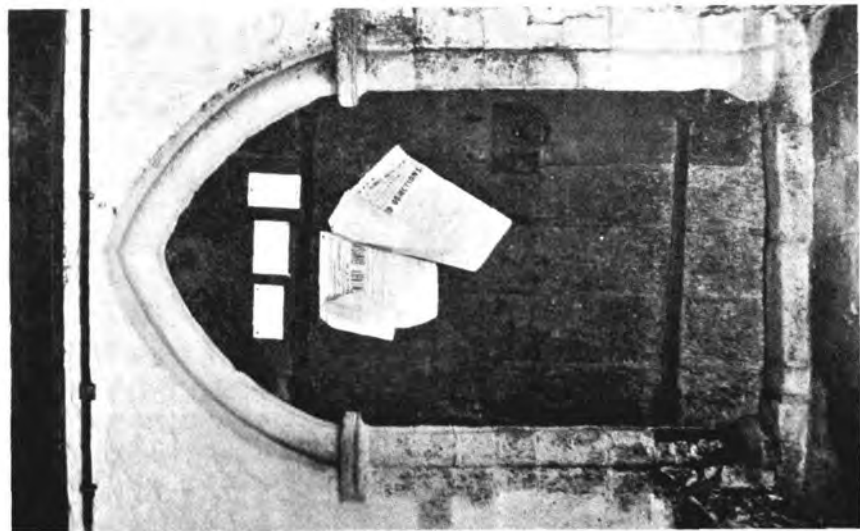


Photo. V. J. B. Torr.

South door within the porch.



Photo. R. C. D. Boyer.

Detail of exterior, with the porch, from south-east.

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on "necessary journeys" by a priest as his private chaplain, with portable altar for the celebration of Mass.

This John Monyns had a son and namesake (as a bequest in the will of John Greneford "*Johanni Monyn filiolo* (godson) *meo*" shows), and it was in all probability he who was referred to nearly forty years later, when, on March 9th, 1509-10, a case came before the Archdeacon's Court,¹ at which William Parker, Thomas Curle, John Aford and others of Lidden stated "That John Monings of the same place detained a chalice belonging to the parish church there, which chalice, before the time of John Monings, had belonged to the church." The matter, evidently, was not settled then, for in the following year, 1511, the same grievance was brought forward again, when Archbishop Warham held a Visitation of his diocese. That part of the proceedings relating to the Deanery of Dover, within which lies Lydden parish, was conducted on 19th. September, 1511, in Dover at St. Mary's Church. John Monynges, gentleman (*generosus*), was then formally accused of retaining in his own hands a chalice which belonged to Lydden church, and of refusing to give it up, or even to allow it to be scheduled in the inventory of the church's property.² The delinquent, being cited accordingly by the Archbishop's Commissary to come and answer on the following 8th April, 1512, duly appeared; when he acknowledged that he still held the chalice, but only for the use of the church, and that he was ready to deliver it up, and also to enter it in the list of goods belonging to the church—an undertaking which he was charged to fulfil under pain of excommunication.

On the same occasion (1511) also it was presented that both the chancel-roof of Lydden Church, and the Rood-loft were in disrepair. The responsibility for the upkeep of the chancel was the Rector's, in this case the Abbot and Canons of the Premonstratensian community at West Langdon (since the compulsory surrender of the Abbey

¹ *Archdeaconry Court Act Book*, Vol. II, fol. 124 (Canterbury Probate Office).

² See *Arch. Cant.*, Vol. XXVI, p. 174.

did not take place until 16th November, 1535) who were ordered to carry out the necessary repairs before the next Feast of the Assumption (15th August, 1512). The rood-loft, being situated in the nave, was the affair of the parishioners, on whose behalf the churchwardens were required to put the loft in order before the next Feast of St. John Baptist (24th June, 1512).

The rood-loft, in consequence of the order of Queen Elizabeth, dated 10th October, 1561, has disappeared; neither has a scrap of screenwork survived; but there may yet be noticed the two stone corbels or brackets, one projecting from either lateral wall of the nave, which served to carry the ends of the lower beam of the gallery parapet. The corbels are plain blocks of stone, 9 inches wide and without moulding or sculpture, but slightly rounded on their under side. They are situated at a distance of 3 feet 3 inches from the east wall of the nave, while their upper surface is 9 feet 6 inches above the nave's floor level.

The screen which was of wood, with the Monyns arms, carved and coloured, upon it, was still standing in 1630, according to the contemporary testimony of Sir Edward Dering.

The inventory of church goods at "Lyden" on 5th December in the 6th year of Edward VI (1552), printed in *Archæologia Cantiana*, Vol. IX, p.283, contains no item relating to the fabric of the building; except an incidental reference to the church's having been broken into (presumably in the earlier years of Edward VI's reign) and robbed of certain ornaments; but what harm, if any, was then done to the structure itself is not mentioned.

Archdeacon Harpesfield's Visitation in 1557 reveals the shocking state into which Lydden church had fallen in the last year of Henry VIII and afterwards, owing to the negligence of the Rector, Archbishop Cranmer, and the peculations of his Vicar, John Julius; in consequence of which the Vicarage had had to be sequestrated from the year 1553 onward. The worst scandals complained of were not a question of controversy between the unreformed

and the reformed faith, but a matter of simple, ordinary decency. The roof of the chancel was all broken in, the glass in the windows of nave as well as chancel in fragments, and God's acre left without any proper fence to protect it.

At Archbishop Parker's Visitation, holden in 1569 it was presented that "the chancel is not furnished as it ought to be"; and again in 1573 (*Arch. Cant.*, Vol. XXIX, p. 292) it was complained that, owing to the neglect of the Archbishop himself, as Rector of the parish, the chancel, and that in spite of repeated representations, was in such grievous decay as to be in danger of collapsing, unless it were promptly repaired. The parish register book contains a memorandum of the receipt on 29th October, 1598, of 10/- bequeathed by one William Marchall for the repair of the church. But seeing that the sum in question was paid over to a churchwarden, as representing the parishioners, it was no doubt used for the body of the church, as distinct from the chancel.

The money was required badly enough. To the end of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, that is over a period ranging down to 1605, as the presentments in the Archdeacons' Visitations show, the parishioners remonstrated year after year about the disgraceful condition of their church, but in vain; no heed being taken of their urgent pleas for remedy. Never was there more desperate need of a really zealous prelate like Archbishop Laud; but the diocese was destined to wait nearly thirty years more before his appointment in 1633.

The records in question are to be found in manuscript volumes in the Library of Canterbury Cathedral; and run as follow:—

1571. Roger Dugdale farmer of the parsonage, [that the chancel] is out of reparations, both above head as not water-tight, as underfoot not being even, but full of holes, unseemly to beholders, and although the same hath been heretofore already presented, yet we find no redress or reform therein. (Vol. 1571-2, fol. 50.)

1572. The chancel of Lydden is unpaved and like to fall, if speedy redress be not had, because the same hath often been presented, and yet unreformed. (— fol. 122.)
1576. The glass windows of our chancel lacketh reparation; also the pews. (Vol. 1574-6, fol. 173.)
1582. The chancel is almost utterly decayed for lack of reparation. (Vol. 1577-83, fol. 92.)
1588. We present our chancel for lack of reparation in the walls, the roof lacks tileing, the glass windows broken, the seats in the chancel decayed and broken. (Vol. 1585-92, fol. 51.)
1590. Our chancel being not repaired by M^r Thomas Monings, parson. (Vol. 1585-92, fol. 95.)
1593. That the windows of the chancel wanteth glazeing and are greatly out of repair, and the chancel wanteth tileing and likewise the church. The churchyard is not sufficiently fenced and enclosed so that the swine and hoggs come therein, and root and dig up the graves and make great spoil. (Vol. 1592-1602, fol. 21.)
1594. Our chancel wanteth reparation, some of the glass windows are broken down and decayed. (Vol. 1592-1602, fol. 24.)
1605. Our chancel is not paved but floored as it hath been accustomed, not whited nor yet sufficiently repaired. M^r Stephen Monings is parson. (Vol. 1602-9, fol. 59.)

Meanwhile on 6th April, 1580 (as recorded by the chroniclers, Holinshed and Stow) a violent earthquake-shock was felt in the easternmost parts of Kent, its effects extending from Thanet to Hythe and Saltwood; and, although there is no documentary record of its having affected Lydden, the late Rev. T. S. Frampton, conjectured that, as the parish lies in the direct line between the two extremities named, it can scarcely have escaped. The tower shows unmistakable signs of having once been higher than it now is, and Mr. Frampton

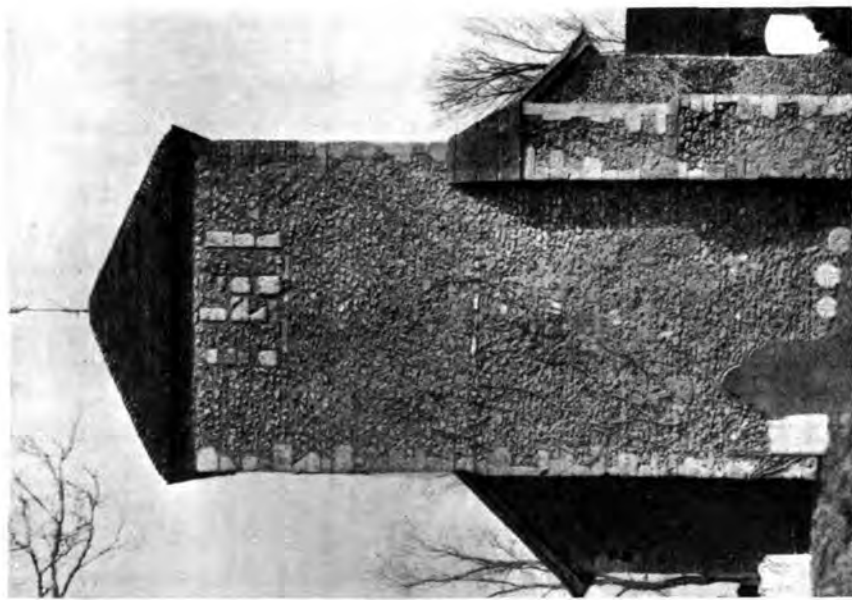


Photo. R. C. D. Boger.

West face of tower.

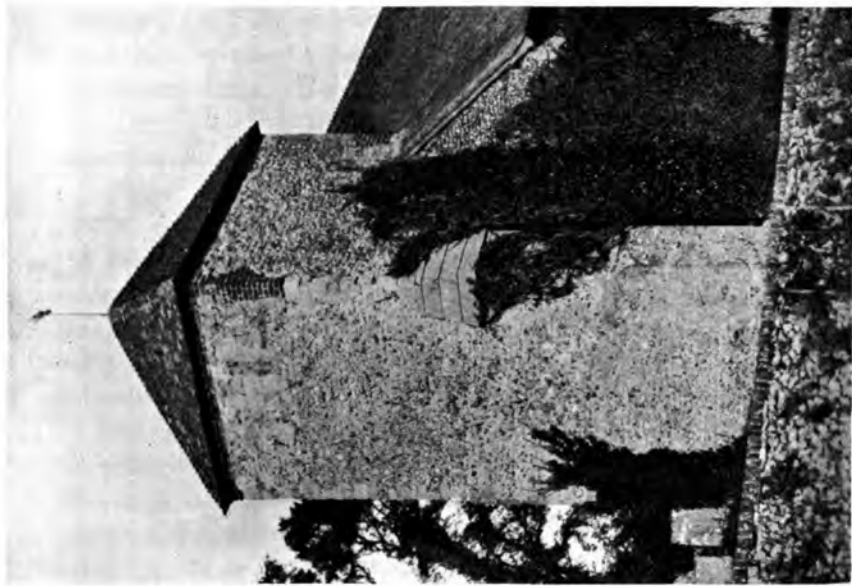


Photo. E. G. J. Amos.

Tower from the south-west as it was before the removal of the ivy.

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suggests that the explanation may be that so much damage was done by the earthquake that the tower had to be lowered in consequence. His idea, moreover, seems to be supported by the fact that, in the course of the most recent (1899) restoration, the tower was actually found to be cracked. Anyhow, it is certain that the walls of the tower, as first built, would not have been topped by the existing finish of brick; but that, for whatever reason, the brick courses must have been introduced later as a substitute for the original flint and stonework.

In the churchyard not far from the north wall of the chancel, may be seen a large, smooth-surfaced stone, 3 feet 4 inches wide, but smashed off unevenly at one end of its length, which, at the longest point, is now 5 feet 4 inches. Beneath its edge runs a wide hollow chamfer. Although no sign of consecration crosses has been discovered, it looks very much as though this stone might have been the slab from the pre-Reformation high altar, which, in view of Archdeacon Harpesfield's order at his visitation in 1557, must, presumably, have been overthrown in the reign of Edward VI, (1547 to July 1553). Or otherwise the slab of stone might be the top of a casket tomb of late-mediaeval date.

Lydden parish register goes back so far as 1540, beginning that is, only two years later than the order of Henry VIII's Vicar-General, Thomas Crumwell, who made the keeping of a regular record of births, marriages and deaths in every parish obligatory. The register here comprises, beside the usual returns, only a few entries of more than parochial interest. Thus, in 1543 the "plague was in Lydde(n) and most of the parish died of it." It seems to have broken out in September, 1543 and, with intervals in the winter months, to have continued until about the middle of 1545, when it finally abated.

On 17th March, 1678-79, occurs the earliest record of a burial in woollen in Lydden. This was in obedience to an Act of Parliament passed in 1678, a Protectionist measure for checking the importation of foreign linen and stimulating

the home manufacture of woollen textiles. To the violation of this Act was attached a penalty of £5, half of which, on conviction being secured, went to the informer, the other half being given to the poor of the parish.

(Visited August, 1929 and January, 1931.)

APPENDIX I.

The Will of John Greneford of Swanton, in Lydden, dated 24th January, 1473-4, and proved 13th June 1474, (P. C. C. Wattys. 15) from the transcript made by the late Rev. T. Shipdem-Frampton, B.C.L., M.A., F.S.A.

“ In Dei Nomine vicesimo quarto die mensis Januarii anno Domini millesimo CCCC^{mo}. lxxii^{clo}. et anno regni regis Edwardi xii^{mo}. Ego Johannes Greneford de parochia de Lyden in comitatu Kancie compos mentis & sane memorie condo presens testamentum sive meam ultimam voluntatem in hunc modum.

“ In primis lego animam meam Deo omnipotenti beateque Marie Virgini & omnibus Sanctis, Corpusque meum in ecclesia de Lyden predicta juxta fontem ibidem terra humandum. Item lego summo Altari ejusdem ecclesie iijs. iiij^d. Item lego fabrice predictae ecclesie quolibet anno iijs. iiij^d. per tres annos equaliter persolvendos. Item lego ad novos discos & pavementum in cancella dicte ecclesie fabricand’ xls. Item volo & ordino quod lumen beate Marie in cancella predicta de novo reperetur durante tota vita Margarete uxoris mee citra festum Assumpcionis beate Marie Virginis. Item volo modo consimili quod lumen Sancte Crucis in eadem ecclesia reperetur quolibet biennio vita dicte Margarete durante. Item lego fabrice cujusdam fenestre vitrie in cancella predicta ex parte australi ejusdem cancellae fabricande ubi Curatus & ego predictus Johannes horas canonicas persolvere consueverimus xxvjs viij^d. Item lego Abbati de Langdon pro decimis oblitis xij^d. Item lego summo altari de Acrise iijs. iiij^d. Item lego eidem ecclesie de Acrise ad novum Calicem emend’ xiijs. iiij^d. Item lego Johanni Bayly capellano xs. Item lego Willelmo Stephyn servienti meo ultra denarios quos ei debeo xxs. Item lego Willelmo Banke xs. Item lego Johanni Duke servienti meo vjs. viij^d. Item lego Waltham servienti meo ijs. ultra denarios quos ei debeo xxs. Lego Isothe uxori Johannis Wyllers vjs. viij^d. Item lego Anne Eldregate ad maritagium suum xs. Item

lego Johanne Horne ad maritagium suum vs. Item lego Thome Russell vs. pro diversis agnellis per disposicionem dicte uxoris mee ad usum ejusdem Thome & pasturam pro eisdem sive tant' pasturand' ad terminum vite sue dummodo maneat cum uxore mea & Johanne Monyn apud Swanton. Item lego Agneti filie mee uxori Johannis Coupledike iij^l, durante termino quinque annorum ad festum Apostolorum Simonis & Jude annuatim persolvendas quousque summa viginti librarum predictae Agneti plenarie persolvatur. Item volo quod Johannes Monyn & Alicia uxor ejus filia mea & pueri exhibeantur in familia mea apud Swanton cum sufficiente victu & cum honesta camera cum focalibus sufficientibus quamdiu contigerit prefatum Johannem & Aliciam simul copulari. Item volo quod predicta Alicia durante termino quinque annorum post obitum meum annuatim habeat xxs. Item lego Johanni Monyn filiolo meo xls. Item lego Ricardo filio predicti Johannis Coupuldyke xls. Item lego Margarete filie predicti Johannis Coupuldyke & Agnetis uxoris sue filie mee quolibet anno post obitum meum iij^l vjs. viij^d. quousque summa quinquaginta librarum eidem Margarete plenarie persolvantur si ipsam maritari contigerit aliter nequaquam. Et quo ad disposicionem omnium terrarum & tenementorum meorum cum pertinentiis situat' & jacentium in comitatu Kancie volo quod predicta Margareta uxor mea gaudeat possideat teneat & habeat omnia terras & tenementa mea cum suis pertinentiis quibuscumque in comitatu predicto ad terminum vite sue & post decessum ejusdem Margarete volo quod Hamo Beele & Petrus Yonge feoffati mei faciant statum Johanni Monyn & Alicie filie mee in manerio sive mesuagio de Swanton simul cum omnibus terris & tenementis que habeo in parochia de Lyden Swynfeld Wodeton Alkham Stonden & Sheldon habend' predict' Johanni Monyn & Alicie uxori sue & heredibus de corporibus eorundem Johannis & Alicie legitime procreatis. Et si contingat predict' Johannem & Aliciam sine heredibus de eorundem corporibus legitime procreatis obire tunc volo quod predictum Manerium sive mesuagium ac omnia terre & tenementa situat' in parochiis supradictis remaneant rectis heredibus ipsius Alicie. Et si contingat dictam Aliciam sine heredibus de corpore suo legitime procreatis obire tunc volo quod predictum Manerium sive mesuagium ac omnia alia terre & tenementa mea cum pertinentiis quibuscumque remaneant Agneti filie mee uxori predicti Johannis Coupuldyke habend' & tenend' sibi & heredibus de corpore suo

legitime procreatis. Et si contingat predictam Agnetem sine heredibus de corpore suo legitime procreatis obire quod absit tunc volo quod predictum Manerium sive mesuagium ac predict' terre & tenementa remaneant Elizabethhe uxori Thome Wode sorori mee & heredibus de corpore suo legitime procreatis. Residuum vero omnium bonorum meorum superius non legatorum do & lego prenominate Margarete uxori mee quam ordino facio & constituo meam executricem. Datum die & anno supradictis."

"Probatum fuit coram domino apud Lamehith xiiij die mensis Junii anno domini millesimo CCCC^{mo} Lxxiiiij^{to} ac approbatum &c. Et commissa fuit administracio &c. Margarete relicte &c. in persona Johannis Coupuldyke litterati procuratoris sui &c. de bene & fideliter administrand' &c. Ac de pleno & fidei Inventario &c. citra festum Sancti Michaelis Archangeli proximum &c. necnon de pleno compoto &c. In debit' juris forma jurat' &c."

APPENDIX II.

HERALDIC AND GENEALOGICAL NOTE.

BY RALPH GRIFFIN, F.S.A.

The account given by Hasted of the Monins family, starting with an apocryphal Sir Simon de Monyn who attended William the Conqueror and bore *Gules three crescents* or is no doubt derived from the great pedigree drawn out for Edward Monings of Waldershare in 1570 by Cooke, Clarencieux, which is probably as worthless as others due to that notorious person. As a matter of fact there was no need for Cooke's fabrications, for the family was actually of quite decent antiquity, as John Monyn, as early as 20 Edward III, appears as contributing to the levy to make the Black Prince a Knight, where he pays "*per uxorem suam*" conjointly with the heirs of Thomas Malmayns for the manor of Lynacre in Whitfield in the hundred of Bewsborough; and Nicholas Monyn is found, in 13 Henry IV, to be a man of £20 a year in land in the same hundred.¹

¹ It is no doubt to Cooke's pedigree that we owe the ridiculous coat with its bogus quarterings shown in the Visitation of 1663. The Editor for the Harleian Society did not solve them, so it may be convenient to name them in order: 1. Monins, 2. Montfort, 3. Polton, 4. Crawthorne, 5. Pysing, 6. Shoulden, 7. Halden, 8. Bewsfield, 9. Colby, 10. Malmains, 11. Waldershare, 12. Greenford, 13. Lutteridge, 14. Swanton, 15. Loverick, 16. Darey, 17. Ayloff, 18. Chich (should have a bordure), 19. Chicheley, 20. Colshill.



Photo. R. C. D. Boger.

Window on the south side of the tower, lowest stage.



1. Monyns impaling Grenefeld.



2. Monyns.



3. Monyns impaling Ansty.

Sculptured shields of arms on a tomb in the nave.

Drawn by G. W. Humphry from rubbings.

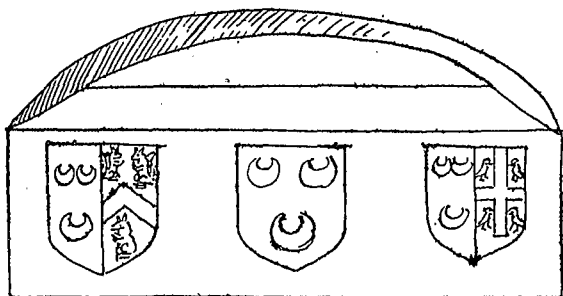
LYDDEN CHURCH.

Lydden 1630

In of east window in of chancel, these armes

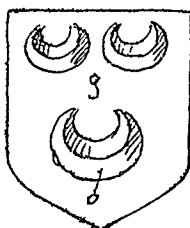


In of north wall of of church under a small low arch: this
Alax Tombe without inscription



In of south wall of this church under another such arch
another altar tombstone, but of stone is gone, and no marks
left, where this is neere of church doore

Att of going into of chancel upon of partition
of woad between that end of church this coat
curved and coloured in of midst there



Facsimile, reduced, of a pen drawing by Sir Edward Dering, dated 1630,
in the possession of the Society of Antiquaries of London.

The earliest Visitation of Kent, that of 1530, only gives Edward Monyings of Swanton, who married Parnell, daughter of Anthony Levericke of Herne, and had by her four sons and four daughters. It gives no information as to Edward Monyings' father. It assigns to him a coat of eight quarters (the border of Chich being omitted) and a crest. This corresponds with the coat and crest given to Monins in the Visitation of Arms of Kent, 1594, which I edited recently with notes.

The next Visitation is the more extended one of 1574, recently edited from a very corrupt MS. for the Harleian Society. This gives no crest and a coat of arms of only five quarterings, all of which appeared in the Visitation of 1530-1, except the last, brought in by the marriage of John Monings of Waldershare, shown here as a brother of the Edward of the earlier Visitation, with the heiress of Alday. The pedigree is signed by Thomas, her son, and sets out no children of Edward Monings by Parnell Leverick, except a son Richard. It is not safe to assume that the others had all died in infancy, because in the pedigree of Aucher one of the daughters, Alice by name, is shown as the wife of William Aucher of Nonnington.

It is to be observed that both Visitations make Edward to be of Swanton, while John his brother is in the latter stated to be of Waldershare. In some additional pedigrees to the next Visitation of 1592, which was made, as was that of 1574, by Cooke, printed in the same Harleian volume, is one of Monins, which gives a very extended account of the family, and describes it as seated at Waldershare for four generations at least before the father of Edward and John mentioned above.

In a MS. Visitation of Kent in the handwriting of "Mr. Grafton," which came from the Dacre Library, and so probably belonged to Sampson Lennard, Bluemantle, is this account of the family:—John Monyinges temp. Hen. V espoused for his second wife Battell Anstiff by whom he had Stephen temp. Hen. VI who had Robert temp. Hen. VII and he had John temp. Hen. VIII who married Alice d. and heir of Greneforde and they had Edward Monynges of Swanton co. Kent and John Monynges of Waldershare who married Margery d. and heir of Thos. Abdy and had Thomas and William. Thomas had two wives one Elizabeth d. of John Payton; the other Alice d. of W^m Crispe; by her he had Mary, married to Sir Cav. Maycott of Reculver; and by Elizabeth he had Edward s.p. and ———

married to George Tooke. And the said Edward Monynges of Swanton married Parnell d. and heir of Anthony Leverick of Herne, and they had issue Richard who died anno 3 Eliz., who married Katherine d. and heir of Thomas Aleph and of — his wife the d. of Colshell and they had John Monyngs of Colshell in Milton [Regis] parish, Sir Edward Monynges of Waldershare in life anno 1573 and—married to Alexander, second son of Thomas Ford. And John married—d. and heir of Colshell whose mother was d. and heir of Chich of Colshell. And the said Sir Edward Monynges espoused—daughter of Thomas Lovelace of Kingsdown near Farningham, and had issue Sir W^m Monyngs Baronet, Thomas, Richard, Martha, Elizabeth, Priscilla, Frances, and Mary. And Sir W^m married Jane d, of Roger Twisden.

So far the Dacre MS.¹

The mention of the Baronetcy created in 1611 gives an approximate date to the MS. The arms tricked are as in the Visitation of 1530 (Chich without its border) and wreath and crest as there. But the MS. calls the second quarter Anstiffe, though it is in fact Waldershare, and the scribe seems to have felt some doubt himself as he adds a note: "Anstif *ab antiquo portabat* G. a cr. rebated between four martlets ar," and at fol. 39^b of the MS. Anstive is so shown with the remark "empaled by Monynge," and Waldershare is tricked alongside it, followed by Swanton and Greenford of Swanton.

It seems pretty clear on the whole that the Monins family was of no great account before it established itself by marriage with heiresses of Swanton and Waldershare.

From bundle 26 of *Early Chancery Proceedings*, No. 540, it appears that the manor of Waldershare was bequeathed by Jane Knowth, heiress of Richard Malmayns to Eleanor the wife of Sir Thomas Broun, knight. Jane Knowth was d. and h. of Harry Knowth by his wife Elizabeth, and had been ward to Sir John Cheyne by grant from the King. Her will (1459) is printed in *Arch. Cant.* Vol. XI at p. 373. Sir Thomas Browne was treasurer of the household to Henry VI and was of Betchworth and married Eleanor, d. and co-heir of Sir Thomas Fitzalan, who is probably the Dame Eleanor alluded to in the will, This makes

¹ I have extended some words and spelt some in modern fashion. This MS. will, I hope, eventually find a place amongst those in the Library of the Soc. Antiq.

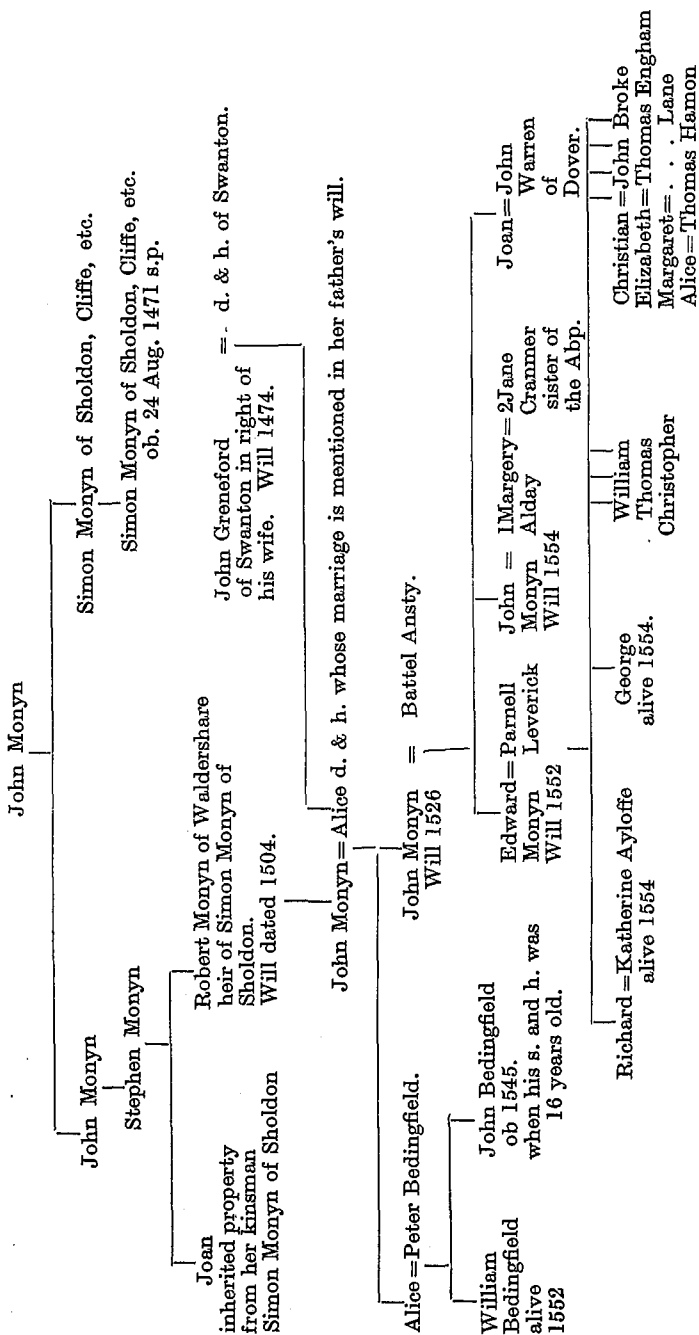
it extremely improbable that the Monins family was of Waldershare as early as suggested by the pedigree of the 1592 Visitation.

In the same *Early Chancery Proceedings*, No. 29 of Bdl. 465 relates to a suit c. 1520, in which John Bedingfield Esq., son and heir of Alice grand-daughter and co-heir of John Greneford Esq., sought to recover deeds relating to a moiety of the manor of Swanton in dispute between the complainant and Edward Munnynge.

The Bedingfields were of Bellaview in Lymne and Brabourne, whither they came from Oxborough in Norfolk. In the Visitation of 1574 is a pedigree of them, in which Peter Bedingfield of Oxborough is shewn as having married as his first wife Alice, daughter of John Monning and co-heir of Greenford and John Bedingfield as her eldest son. The lady does not appear in the Visitation pedigree of Monins and is difficult to place therein.

It seems fairly certain on the whole that John Monins, who died in 1526, had for his mother Alice, d. and h. of John Greneford, and for his wife Battell Anstive or Anstey, who came from Cambridgeshire. He had two sons, John and Edward. John married Margery Alday and was of Waldershare, while Edward who married Parnell Leverick was of Swanton, which explains why he only was respondent in the suit by Bedingfield. The monument at Lydden for John Monins 1526, as it was when seen by Sir Edward Dering, confirms this view, as it shews his own coat, that of his father and mother, and that of himself and his wife. The six quarterings set out in 1530 also agree with it, though too much reliance must not be placed on the marshalling of coats at this date, which is often somewhat haphazard. The two coats shewn on the tomb as impaled by Monins are *Gules a chevron ermine between three squirrels or*, for Greneford, and *Gules a cross humetty between four birds argent* correctly stated in the Dacre MS. to be the ancient coat of Ansty. It may be permitted to doubt whether the sculptor at Lydden intended them for *martlets*.

I have not found any distinct authority for the Monins coat of three crescents before the Visitation of 1530. Cooke confirmed it to Edward Monings when he drew out for him the "great pedigree". As to the coat of many quarters, it would be hard to find any justification for the second quarter or for any before the tenth. That seems justified and brings with it the eleventh. The twelfth would bring in the fourteenth and the Lutteridge quarter, as John Greenford is said to have married the



heiress of Lutteridge though this quarter does not appear in the quarterings given in the earliest Visitation. Nor do I find any justification for the Darcy quarter, brought in by Loverick. The rest are brought in by Ayloff. The Colshill quarter should have a *chief arg. with gouttes de sang.*

General Fane Lambarde, who has kindly read this note, suggests as a tentative pedigree of Monins that on page 21.

APPENDIX III.

VISITATION OF ARCHBISHOP WARHAM, 1511.

The following is a transcript, kindly made by Miss Irene Churchill, of the record of Archbishop William Warham's Visitation of his diocese, from his Register preserved at Lambeth Palace, in so far as relates to the fabric of Lydden Church, and to the incident, recounted above, of the unauthorised detention of the chalice by John Monynges.

“DECANATUS DOUORR *Ecclesia de Ledyn (Detecta et comperta)*

Compertum est the Roode loft is not reparid. Item the Chaunce(l) is not repayrid sufficiently in the cieling.

Item that ther ys a chaleis in a gentill mannys handes the which shalbe amendid and conuerted to the churche as he saieth but he woll not have hit sett in the inuentary of the church.

Ecclesia de Leden. (Acta habita et facta.)

Quarto die february Anno domini predicto comparuerunt Iconomi (churchwardens) dicte ecclesie quibus Iniunctum est per dominum commissarium quod debite reparent le roodloft ibidem citra festum Natiuitatis Sancti Johannis baptiste prox' sub pena excommunicacionis. Item dictis die et loco comparuit Abbas de Langdon proprietarius dicte ecclesie Cui dominus commissarius Iniunxit ad sufficienter reparandum Cancellum ibidem in celatura citra festum Assumptionis beate marie prox' sub pena sequestracionis fructuum ibidem.

Item dictis die et loco comparuerunt Iconomi dicte ecclesie de Leden a quibus Dominus commissarius interrogauit quis habuit in manibus suis huiusmodi Calicem, quiquidem Iconomi responderunt quod Johannes Monynges generosus. Et incontinente

Dominus commissarius decreuit eundem Johannem vocandum fore erga viij diem mensis Aprilis proxime. Quo die veniente comparuit prefatus Johannes Monynges iuxta monicionem sibi factam et fatctur se habere huiusmodi Calicem in manibus suis de bonis dicte ecclesie et custodit eandem ad vsum dicte ecclesie et paratus est ipsam deliberare et etiam inserere in Inuentario bonorum pertinencium ad dictam ecclesiam cui dominus commissarius Iniunxit ad inserendam prefatum calicem in Inuentario bonorum dicte ecclesie in proxima visitacione officialis domini Archidiaconi cant(uariensis) sub pena excommunicacionis."

APPENDIX IV.

VISITATION OF ARCHDEACON HARPEFIELD, 1557.

The following is a transcript, kindly made by Mr. Arthur Hussey from the MS. Volume in the Cathedral Library at Canterbury, in so far as relates to the fabric and ornaments of Lydden Church.

LYDDEN [on 16th August.]

" Rectory :—Appropriator the Archbishop.

Vicarage :—Vacant for four years . . . by reason of a sequestration.

Memorandum :—That Sir John Julian late vicar [1546-53] spoiled the church, and had a bason and ewer and iron candlesticks and curtains of silk for the altar with the altar cloth of satin a brydg, and sencers.

Memorandum :—That the vicar did serve his hens in the old holywater stock.¹

Churchwardens { Thomas Fisher, senior
Nicholas Munday

First, that another altar be set up at this side Easter.

That the parishioners have promised to make a fair table (reredos) over the Altar before Our Lady day in Lent. (25th March)

That the parson repair the chancel, the sealing thereof all to broken, and the glass windows, before Allhallows.

To set up the sacrament decently when the table is made.

¹ The stock thus described would not be the stone stoup, which was a fixture in the wall, but a portable vessel, to wit the holy water bucket, meant for the Asperges.

To provide a cover for the Crismatory, a pinne, and that the holy oyl be renewed out of hand.

To provide sensers, a veil, and a cloth for the Rood, at this side Lent.

To provide two towels, at this side of Allhallows.

To provide a Surples for the priest immediately.

To provide a Missal, at this side Our Lady day in Lent, according to the Use of Sarum.

To provide a Lamp, at this side Our Lady day in Lent, and a Canopy.

To provide another albe at this side Our Lady day in Lent.

To provide a hand-bell, and lights before the Rood, and to make a new cover for the Font with a lock and key to the same.

To provide a Sepulchre this side Easter.

To enclose the churchyard before Allhallows.

To provide to repair the glass windows and other needful reparations of the church (nave) before Allhallows."

APPENDIX V.

THE SEDILIA IN LYDDEN CHURCH.

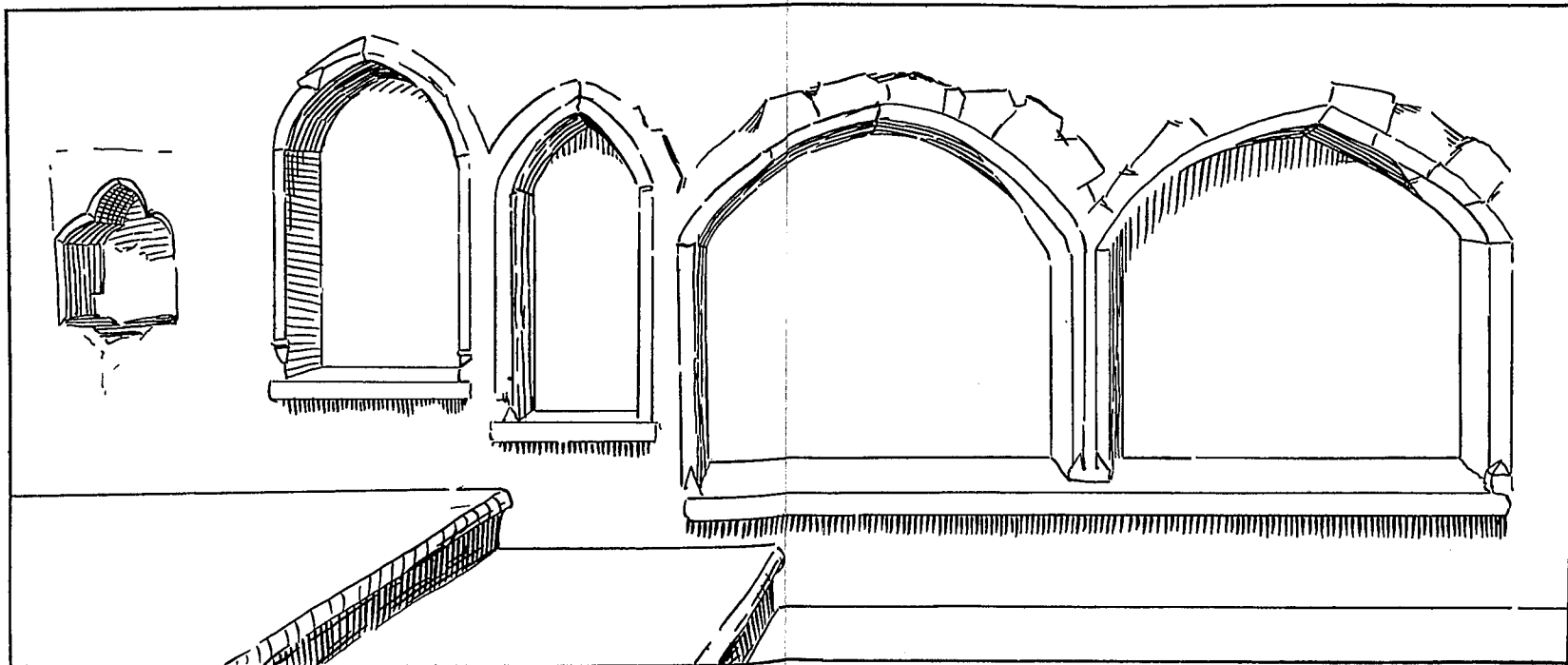
BY V. J. B. TORR.

Lydden Church, though situated close to the town and port of Dover, and just off the Watling Street, is so little visited by antiquaries, that, so far as I am aware, no notice of its sedilia has hitherto appeared in print.

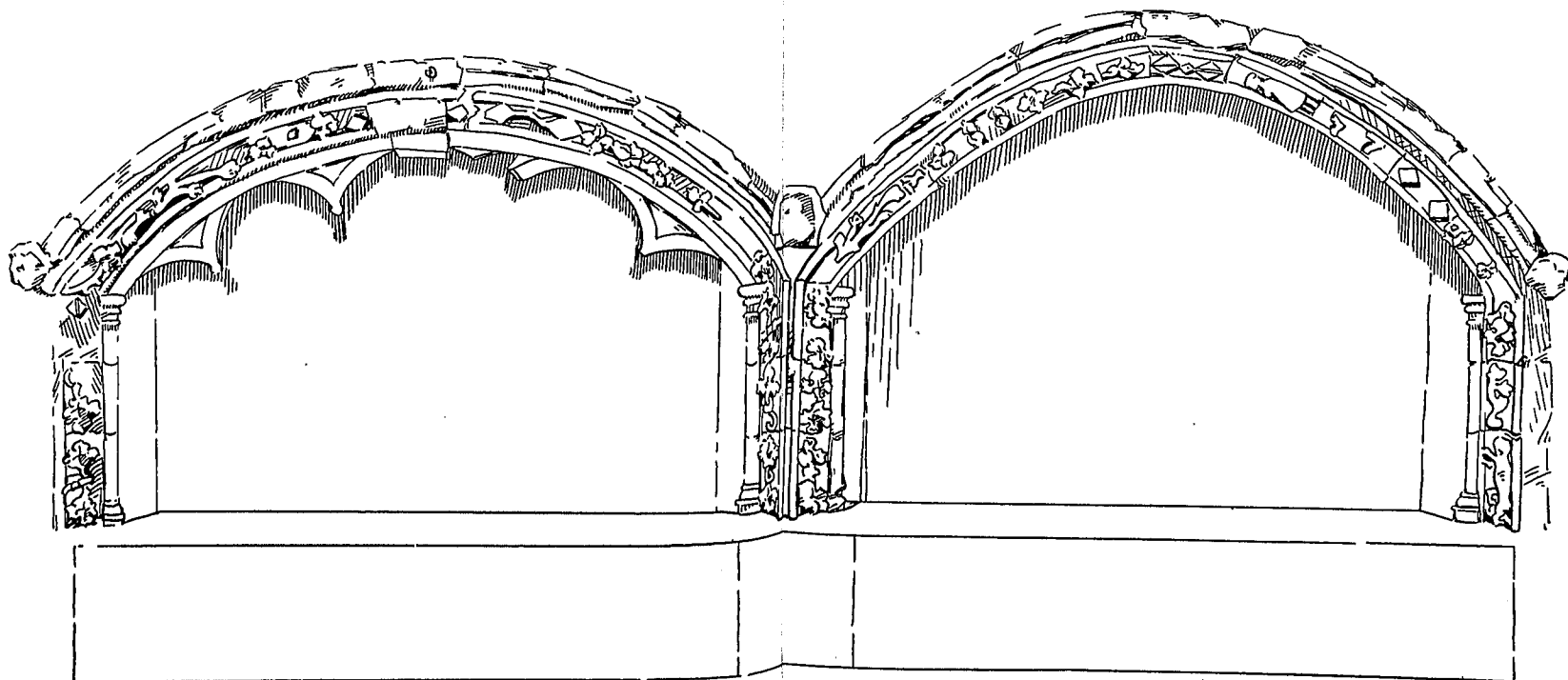
The chancel was built in the 13th-century, to which period its internal architectural features are also to be assigned; and although shorter than many of its contemporaries in East Kent (a district remarkable for long parochial chancels of the days of Henry III) it is nevertheless of good dimensions.

It might possibly be imagined that the sedilia in the S. wall of the chancel (the normal and all but invariable position) provide a parallel to the four seats at All Saints, Maidstone, but this is not the case, although four recesses exist here in one line, and are, if not all identical in character, indubitably of the same style and date.

At the western end of the chancel on either side are two segmental-arched recesses containing seats, in opposite pairs. From the eastern jamb of the easternmost arch the N. wall



LYDDEN CHURCH. Altar-drain, sedilia and two arched recesses in south wall of the chancel.



LYDDEN CHURCH. Tomb-recesses in south wall of the nave. Drawn by Miss Margaret Bogen.

continues blank until its end, whereas on the south in the corresponding position the space is occupied by an altar drain, or piscina, at the E. end, and by two seats of different levels (both from each other and from the rest), adjoining those already mentioned. The true sedilia, therefore, in the technical and ritual sense, are the two eastern recesses on the S. side, while the remaining arches are properly a mural arcade provided with benches. This is an arrangement which may possibly, in the case of a poor country church like Lydden, have been intended to supply the choral seating accommodation which normally took the form of wooden stalls. Colour is lent to the suggestion by the comparatively early date of the work, which is definitely of the first half of the 13th-century and possibly dates from the archiepiscopate of Stephen Langton (1207-28), a period before wooden seating had developed to any considerable extent, save in great quires. The plain character of the design renders this conjecture likely, for even though Lydden was a fabric of no importance, yet its proximity to the school of masons at Canterbury might very well, if the work were of the second quarter of the century, have led to greater elaboration of mouldings and the introduction of capped shafts, as at Deal and some other churches in this district.

The provision of *mural* seating in addition to the actual sedilia can be found elsewhere, though it is not common. In this county, the chancels of Westwell and Cheriton, among others, have a continuous arcade along their opposite walls, in both cases of the 13th-century. At Cheriton the bench-table is raised at the eastern end of the S. side, to mark the sedilia. At Westwell an extensive alteration of the Decorated period has considerably obscured the design of the S. wall, which cannot, however, be doubtful to the expert eye. Similarly in the 14th-century chancel of Snavewell the handsome single sedile¹ is placed next to the lowered sill of the adjacent window, which, provided with a bench, gives further seating on its western side.

All six recesses at Lydden are hollow-chamfered in arches and jambs throughout (a pleasing and fairly uncommon feature), the stops being of the dagger pattern, except in the case of the eastern sedile, where the well-known roll form occurs. The whole range presents a good effect, the stone being mainly Caen, with some mixture of other material. The mural arcades, as stated, have segmental arches, while those of the sedilia are of two-centred

¹ See *Arch. Cant.*, Vol. XLI, p. 221.

form, the eastern raised above the western, correspondent with the graduation of seats (both above the level of the other benches,) and without any hood-moulds. The whole of this arcading is original work, whereas the bench-tables (with the exception of that of the eastern sedile) appear to have been renewed. The two sedilia (probably intended for priest and parish clerk) have modern wooden seating inserted above their benches. The contemporary, and unrestored, altar-drain has a plain-chamfered trefoiled arch, also without label, the jambs having roll chamfer-stops, and a basin, both of Caen stone, the recess lined with chalk. The drain is set in a square depression, the four sides sloping down to it, but, despite the damaged state of the front of the basin, it never projected.

Two further mural arcades, of shallower recessing, may be seen in the N. wall of the nave.

It may be observed in conclusion, that the Eastern part of Kent, roughly co-extensive with the lathe of St. Augustine, possesses a fine series of 13th-century sedilia of varying designs, comprising a group of over a dozen for this period alone, perhaps the most beautiful of which is to be found at Great Mongeham.¹

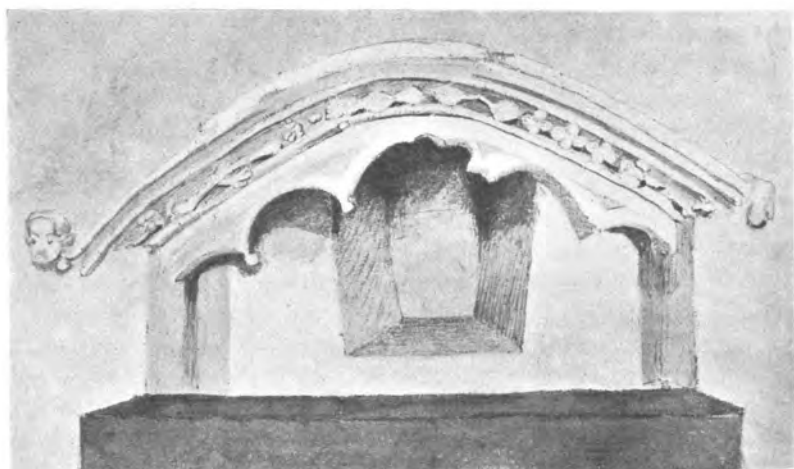
APPENDIX VI.

EARLY VIEWS OF LYDDEN CHURCH.

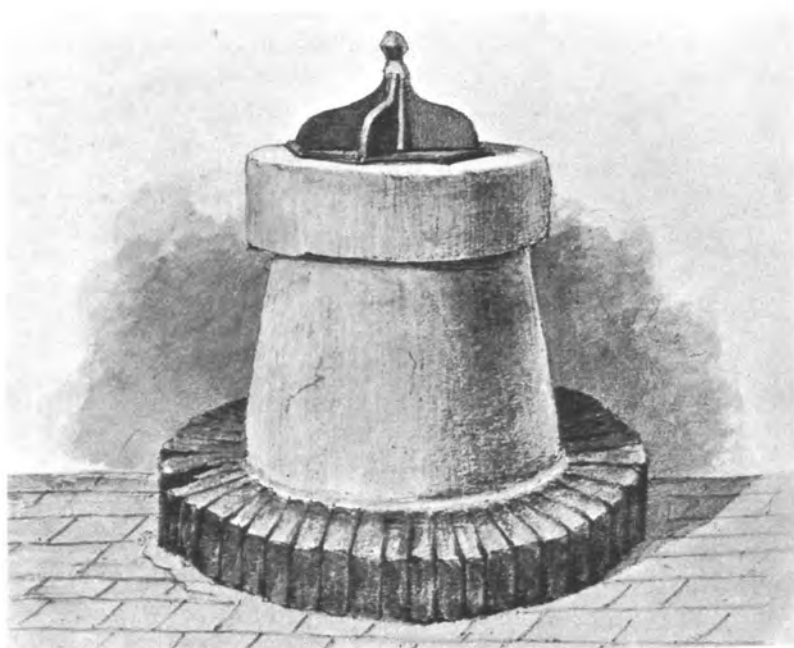
BY V. J. B. TORR.

In Add. MS. 32367 at the British Museum will be found a number of interesting water-colour and sepia drawings of Lydden church before its 19th-century "restoration." Folio 1 depicts the exterior from S.E., showing, for E. window of chancel, a wooden-framed "Churchwarden" insertion; Folio 2 shows the exterior from N.E., dated Aug. 1847, by R. S. Miles, who drew many Kentish churches about that time; and Folio 3 has two valuable pictures of the easternmost Decorated mural recess in S. wall of nave, and of the original font. The former shows a splayed recess, blocked at the back, within the canopy, a feature of which no trace now remains, the wall having all been plastered

¹ Alkham, Cheriton, Deal St. Leonard, Dover Castle Church (two examples, late twelfth, and thirteenth century restored), Eythorne, Hlythe, Lydden, Great Mongeham, Northbourne, Ringwoud, St. Nicholas at Wade, Sandwich St. Peter, Wingham, Womenswoud. To this list, possibly not exhaustive, add St. Mary Bredin, Canterbury (destroyed).



Easternmost tomb on south side of nave. Note splayed recess at back, and absence of coats of arms. (Streatfeild Collection.)



The ancient font, abolished in the nineteenth century. (Streatfeild Collection.)

LYDDEN CHURCH.

to an even surface. The drawing shows the low tomb beneath apparently plastered over. The picture of the old font makes us deplore its mediocre modern substitute. The original font stood on a low plinth of brick and was of Norman workmanship, and of tub-form, without base-course and with only a plain projection at the top all round. It was surmounted by a simple Jacobean cover, octagonal on plan, and having an upright post with knob finial, to which were attached four plain and solid ogee projections, buttressing the post and having the appearance of rudders. The loss of both font and cover is lamentable, the former (of the 12th-century at least) being certainly the oldest piece of furniture in the church before its removal.

NOTE. Grateful acknowledgments are due to the following : the Rev. Tudor P. Moreton, Vicar of Lydden, for his kindness and courtesy in placing at my disposal all the parish memoranda in his possession, including the transcript of John Greneford's will ; to Miss Irene Churchill for her time and trouble in transcribing the record of the 1511 Visitation from the original Register at Lambeth ; to Mr. Arthur Hussey for valuable suggestions and for making transcripts in the Cathedral Library at Canterbury ; to the Kent County Photographic Record and Survey for the photograph from Petrie's view of Lydden Church ; to Mr. R. C. D. Boger for making repeated visits to Lydden in order to take photographs and to prepare the indispensable plan ; and to his sister, Miss Margaret Boger, for her clever and attractive drawings of the interior ; to Mr. V. J. B. Torr, for his notes on the sedilia etc. and for the use of his photograph ; to Mr. E. G. J. Amos for his photograph of the tower ; and to Mr. Ralph Griffin, F.S.A. for making, at my request, a journey to Lydden, for his invaluable help in identifying the armorial shields in the nave, and for writing, with General Fane Lambarde, F.S.A., the heraldic and genealogical notes on the Monyns arms and pedigree. I am particularly grateful to Mr. Griffin for discovering the Dering drawing belonging to the Society of Antiquaries, and for arranging for its reproduction. The importance of this drawing as a historic document can scarcely be overrated.

A.V.